

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver
Proclamation No. 12-0703

Observing September 15 through October 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month in the City & County of Denver

WHEREAS, each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 through October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America, a celebration enacted into federal law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's history, culture, economy, and civic life have been shaped and influenced by the contributions of people of Hispanic descent over many generations; and

WHEREAS, Denver and its neighboring communities are home for a large, vibrant and growing population of Latinos; and

WHEREAS, Latinos currently represent 18 percent of all of Denver's population over the age of 55, and the proportion of Latino older adults will increase substantially in the coming decades; and

WHEREAS, the Latino population in Colorado will grow by 174 percent by 2030, compared with a 31 percent projected growth rate for the white non-Hispanic population in the same time period; and

WHEREAS, Latino elders instill the strong values of family, community and dignity within their own families, their neighbors and in our civic institutions, and have worked to build a legacy of social and economic justice that improve the quality of life for everyone in our community; and

WHEREAS, Latino families respect and value their Latino elders for passing along knowledge, history and spiritual values from generation to generation, thereby providing a strong cultural heritage in which all Latinos can take pride, and

WHEREAS, Colorado Latino Age Wave is an initiative in Metro Denver, developed in partnership by Rose Community Foundation, the Latino Community Foundation of Colorado and Hispanics in Philanthropy, to invest in and advocate for innovative services and programs that support the well-being of Denver's Latino older adult populations; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Denver is grateful for the contributions of Latino older adults as inspiring leaders, valued employees and loyal residents who have contributed immeasurably to Denver's social, cultural, and economic mosaic.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That Denver City Council declares its support for National Hispanic Heritage Month in the City & County of Denver.

Section 2. That Denver City Council commends Colorado Latino Age Wave and its partner organizations for their efforts to elevate aging issues in the Latino community through:

- Research to identify both the challenges facing Latino older adults as well as the assets inherent in Latino culture that provide a promising foundation to develop effective, efficient and culturally relevant programs and services;
- A grant program to promote higher quality, better integrated services to older Latinos by both Latino organizations and aging service providers; and
- A fellowship program to train key leaders to work directly on projects that help create positive change for the Latino older adult population.

Section 3. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Colorado Latino Age Wave.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL September 24, 2012

PRESIDENT